

1903 Report

**FACTS AND FIGURES**

On the Work of

**THE SYRIA MISSION**

Of the

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS**

Of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

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**JANUARY, 1904**

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With brief notice of other work in Beirut.



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“The missionaries journey up and down the field in winter and summer, in heat and cold, in sunshine and storm. Thousands are spoken to by the way and tens of thousands are taught in their own homes. \* \* \* \* \*

Often as I look from the heights of Lebanon over the beautiful plain of Cœle-Syria, I trace in fancy the shining threads of those consecrated lives stretching from mountain to mountain, leading from village to village, from home to home, crossing and recrossing, interlacing and intertwining until the earth is covered as with a garment of light and glory. Whether men heed or reject, not a word spoken, not a kindly act, not an earnest effort, not a prayer, not a tear, not a sigh is lost or forgotten before God.”

—*From “Twenty-five Years’ Review of Work in Zahleh Station.”*

“When the churches at home clearly realize that every victory won for Christianity in this New Land of Promise will be felt to the ends of the Mohammedan world, and that every victory won for Evangelical Protestantism will vibrate from the shores of Spain to the remotest confines of Russian Siberia, they will pray for Syria as they should. And when the Christmas season rolls round and all the world waits in spirit at Bethlehem, they must not forget that Christianity is no longer a child, but a spirit and a power grappling in a death-struggle against powers of earth and hell in the land of Christ’s birth, and that the watchers through this night of weeping wait again to hear the angels’ song: ‘Peace on earth and good will to men.’”



## “FACTS.”

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Guide books give the history of ages and the present condition of the land, but this brief sketch is intended to help friends who wish to look deeper and higher, and to know what are the results of their gifts and prayers, and what the methods of work.

This is not a record of all missionary work done in Syria and Palestine, but primarily that of the Syria Mission of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. It is with no intention of ignoring the grand work of others that this sketch is thus limited, for all our efforts lock and interlock at many points, but with full appreciation of their work, and with complete harmony of co-operation, we leave each society to speak for itself.

Travellers who wish to see something of the village work can do that most easily in the Baalbec and Zahleh region. Those who would see the educational work in all its departments would do well to visit Sidon. To friends who wish further information we extend a hearty welcome to our homes and institutions that we may confer freely and be cheered by their sympathy.

*History.*—The Mission was first started in Palestine about 1820, by missionaries of the American Board. Owing to the state of the land and interruptions from wars, pestilence and massacres, growth was slow at first, and the main work was confined to Syria. In 1870 the Mission was transferred to the care of the Presbyterian Board. During these 84 years less than 150 Americans, male and female, have been employed, the present number being, respectively, 14 and 25. Too much should not be expected of such a small number of workers whose efforts have been scattered over several scores of years.

The story of the efforts to acquire a difficult language, win the confidence of the people, produce an acceptable literature, make and distribute a new translation of the Bible, to secure religious liberty and plant churches and schools, and at the same time train an efficient consecrated band of native workers cannot be here more than alluded to. Those who wish to follow it will find it scattered through many volumes.



*Position.*—The work in Palestine having been withdrawn in favor of the Church Missionary Society, the limits of the mission field are from Acre, on the south, to the field of the Reformed Presbyterians about Latakia, on the north. Aleppo has been surrendered to the English Presbyterians, who have lately occupied that great city. The region east of this coast line comprises a wide district which does not include the city of Damascus and surrounding territory, which is occupied by the Irish Presbyterians. Our field, for convenience and economy of effort, is divided into 4 stations:—

(1) Beirut Station includes that city and the environs north and south along the coast for a distance of 10 miles. Beirut City, population 150,000; Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Jessup, Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Hoskins, Mrs. C. V. A. Van Dyck, Mrs. W. W. Eddy, Miss Emilia Thomson, Miss Mary P. Eddy, M.D., Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Freyer, Miss Rachel Tolles and Miss Ottora M. Horne. Here are Church, Press and Educational forms of work, and instruction given to the Theological Class.

(2) Tripoli Station work includes in that city, in Hums and Hamath, in part of the Nusaireyeh district and northern Lebanon, as far south as Nahr Ibrahim (Adonis River). Of the 300,000 estimated population not more than 160,000 are in places where work is regularly conducted. The missionaries are Rev. and Mrs. F. W. March, Rev. W. S. Nelson, D.D., and wife, Ira Harris, M.D., and wife, the Misses Harriet La Grange and Bernice Hunting.

(3) Lebanon Station occupies the whole of Central Lebanon and all Cœle-Syria. This new Station was formed in 1900 by the consolidation of the Abeih and Zahleh fields, together with the Shweir district, where work was formerly conducted by the Free Church of Scotland and Lebanon Schools Committee. The population is estimated at about 380,000, of whom 250,000 are in the Lebanon, whose governor is a Christian appointed by the Sultan, with the approval of the European powers. Mrs. Wm. Bird and Miss Emily Bird are located at Abeih; Rev. and Mrs. O. J. Hardin at Suq-ul-Gharb; Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Jessup, and Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Doolittle at Zahleh. Rev. Wm. Carslaw, M.D., and Mrs. Carslaw, supported by the Free Church of Scotland, labor at Shweir in connection with the Syria Mission.



(4) Sidon Station has its headquarters in the old city of Sidon. The work here has been long in operation and fully developed in various lines. This field includes the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, southern Lebanon and the interior, from Hermon nearly to Galilee. The regular work reaches about 54,000 of the 330,000 population. Rev. and Mrs. W. K. Eddy, Rev. G. A. Ford, D.D., Rev. Samuel Jessup, D.D., Rev. Paul Erdman, the Misses C. Brown, M. A. Law, and Mr. D. S. Jessup and Mrs. Jessup.

*Methods of work.*—I. The Evangelistic. Outdoor preaching is restricted by law and the customs of the land, but in churches, schools and private houses, or about the tents of missionaries touring, good audiences can be secured. The people are usually friendly, and there is more indifference than hostility. Native pastors number 6, licensed preachers 40, and school teachers, most of whom hold services on the Sabbath, 149. The combined force, native and foreign, is 240.

| <i>Organized Churches</i> |     |     |    | <i>Preaching Places</i> |     |    |     |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|----|-------------------------|-----|----|-----|
| Beirut                    | ... | ... | 2  | ...                     | ... | 3  | ... |
| Tripoli                   | ... | ... | 8  | ...                     | ... | 41 | ... |
| Lebanon                   | ... | ... | 7  | ...                     | ... | 36 | ... |
| Sidon                     | ... | ... | 12 | ...                     | ... | 22 | ... |
| —                         |     |     |    | —                       |     |    |     |
| 29                        |     |     |    | 102                     |     |    |     |

The number of 2,591 church members and about 6,849 Protestants would be larger were it not that emigration has allured thousands of youths and many adults. The average Sabbath congregations are over 5,580, and 93 Sabbath schools gather 5,590 pupils. During the years 1890-1899 the churches received 1109 members on profession of faith, an average of 111 yearly. In 1901, 151 were received. The natives do much even in their poverty towards self-support, and expended in the year 1900 on churches and education \$40,000.

II. The Educational method has been popular and successful, for a public school system is lacking, and the people are anxious to educate their bright children.

(a) 103 day schools, with 1,284 girls, gather over 5,000 pupils from all religious sects. These pupils are daily taught the Bible, catechetics, and the elementary branches. On Sundays all these schools become "Sunday Schools" in which special effort is put forth to attract and interest the older members of the communities. Each child serves as a



messenger also to call friends and parents to preaching services whenever the missionary can visit them.

(*b*) Training schools. These are for the higher education of teachers, and for those who can pay for such advantages. Tripoli, Beirut and Sidon each have a female seminary, supervised by American ladies, and together train about 150 boarders besides 100 day pupils. Three training schools for boys are in Sûk el-Gharb, Shweir and Sidon, while a fourth one is about to be founded in Tripoli. The Sidon school now known as Gerard Institute (see page 20) has industrial training in four departments, and on its farm an orphanage for children from Protestant families. Nearly 500 lads are boarders in these three academies, and there are always more applications than can be received. As \$50 a year will pay the board and tuition of any pupil for the school year, and a less sum will suffice to help one who can pay in part, we do not favor our pupils seeking the more expensive education of other lands, except at their own expense. From our training institutions have gone hundreds of teachers to supply the needs for workers of missions in Egypt, Palestine, and elsewhere.

(*c*) Theological instruction has been given by the Beirut Station, aided by members of other Stations, as suitable classes have been formed. The last class in 1902 numbered 8.

III. Publication work follows in logical sequence, and is of the highest value. The Mission, through its Press (founded in Malta in 1822, and moved to Beirut in 1834), has served all neighboring missions, for it has supplied Bibles, educational text-books, religious reading, scientific works and a standard literature in pure elegant Arabic to all using that language from Morocco to India. While generous financial support has come from the British and American Bible and Tract Societies, as well as from our Board, still the work of preparing fonts of type, of writing, translating and editing these books has fallen on our Mission; and what years of labor that implies can be only inadequately known from statistics. From 1860 to 1900 there were sold 677,000 Scriptures and portions. In 1901 the sales of the Scriptures were double that of the preceding year and have been increasing ever since.

In 1901 the sales of all kinds reached a grand total of 109,315 volumes. Nearly 700 distinct works in Arabic are offered to the public at cheap rates, but in an acceptable,



beautiful typography. At this date, Feb. 1904, the Press has orders in hand for over 100,000 volumes which will tax its capacity for 18 months to come.

IV. Medical work, as a pioneer method of removing prejudices, and as daily representing the spirit of the Great Healer, is an honored branch of activity. The Mission owns and manages two hospitals—that at Tripoli cared for by Dr. Ira Harris, and that at Junieh cared for by Dr. Mary P. Eddy. These are also centers of evangelical effort and preaching by means of Bible women, colporteurs and Sunday Schools. Both Dr. Harris, and Dr. Mary P. Eddy, also travel about meeting thousands of sufferers in crowded clinics.

The above facts do not tell of lives redeemed from sin, of characters helped to high ideals, of the consecrated work of beloved native brethren, nor of the struggle with ancient prejudices and deep fanaticism; they cannot do more than suggest the raised standard of morality, education and home life, and the improved position of women and children. Ten years ago the whole work suffered much from retrenchments and since then crippled energies, and lack of means and men have often kept us from entering open doors and answering earnest appeals. With many millions of dollars poured out by the United States and Great Britain for war and defense, should not more be given in gift and life service in honor of the Prince of Peace, and to hasten the coming of the kingdom of “righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost?”



# 'FIGURES.'

## Statistics of the Syria Mission.

### EVANGELICAL AND GENERAL MISSIONARY WORK.

|   |   |                    |   |   | 1876.  | 1903.    |
|---|---|--------------------|---|---|--------|----------|
| AMERICAN  | { | Men                | - | - | 13     | 14       |
| MISSIONARIES  |   | Women              | - | - | 15     | 25       |
|   |   |                    |   |   | 28     | 39       |
| NATIVE  | { | Ordained Pastors   | - | - | 3      | 6        |
| SYRIAN  |   | Licensed Preachers | - | - | 13     | 40       |
| LABORERS  |   | School Teachers    | - | - | 96     | 149      |
|   |   | Other Helpers      | - | - | 8      | 6        |
|   |   |                    |   |   | 120    | 201      |
| Stations  | - | -                  | - | - | 5      | 4        |
| Outstations   | - | -                  | - | - | 60     | 102      |
| Churches  | - | -                  | - | - | 10     | 29       |
| Church Buildings  | - | -                  | - | - | 24     | 52       |
| Added on profession during the year   | - | -                  | - | - | 75     | 116      |
| Male Church-members   | - | -                  | - | - | 364    | 1336     |
| Female Church-members   | - | -                  | - | - | 209    | 1255     |
|   |   |                    |   |   | 573    | 2591     |
| Total members from the first  | - | -                  | - | - | —      | 4364     |
| Regular preaching places  | - | -                  | - | - | 61     | 102      |
| Average Congregations   | - | -                  | - | - | 2642   | 5580     |
| Sabbath-Schools   | - | -                  | - | - | 40     | 93       |
| Sabbath Scholars  | - | -                  | - | - | 1540   | 5590     |
| Syrian Protestant Community (with-<br>in the field of the Amer. Pres. Mis.)                       | - | -                  | - | - | 2982   | 6849     |
| Contributions of Native Communi-<br>ties, including tuition in Boarding<br>schools and Seminaries | - | -                  | - | - | \$1252 | \$23,210 |



## EDUCATIONAL WORK.

|                                      | 1876. | 1903. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Theological Seminary .....           | 1     | —     |
| Pupils in Seminary. ....             | 7     | —     |
| Boys' Boarding-Schools. ....         | 1     | 3     |
| Pupils in Boarding-Schools. ....     | 42    | 392   |
| Female Seminaries .....              | 3     | 3     |
| Pupils in „ .....                    | 89    | 223   |
| High-Schools .....                   | 2     | 2     |
| Pupils in High-Schools. ....         | 209   | 92    |
| Common Schools. ....                 | 71    | 103   |
| Boys in „ .....                      | 2031  | 3176  |
| Girls in „ .....                     | 819   | 1284  |
| Total Schools .....                  | 80    | 111   |
| Total Pupils. ....                   | 3509  | 5375  |
| Adult Females in Bible-Classes. .... | —     | 350   |

## SCHOOLS IN BEIRUT, 1899.

| Religious Direction<br>of the Schools. | Boys'<br>Schools | Girls'<br>Schools | Male<br>Teachers | Teachers | Boys | Girls. | Total<br>Pupils. |
|--|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|------|--------|------------------|
| Protestant .....                       | 12               | 20                | 50               | 90       | 700  | 2390   | 3090             |
| Mohammedan .....                       | 21               | 3                 | 50               | 20       | 2000 | 500    | 2500             |
| Orthodox Greek .....                   | 6                | 3                 | 21               | 17       | 900  | 910    | 1810             |
| Maronite .....                         | 5                | 1                 | 85               | 3        | 1500 | 55     | 1555             |
| Papal Greek .....                      | 4                | —                 | 38               | —        | 500  | 3      | 503              |
| Jesuits .....                          | 5                | 1                 | 90               | 4        | 1500 | 200    | 1700             |
| Sisters of Charity ...                 | 2                | 4                 | 10               | 11       | 175  | 2000   | 2175             |
| Sisters of Nazareth ..                 | —                | 2                 | —                | 20       | —    | 500    | 500              |
| Mar Monsur .....                       | 2                | —                 | 3                | —        | 400  | —      | 400              |
| Capuchins .....                        | 2                | —                 | 4                | —        | 150  | —      | 150              |
| Syriac .....                           | 1                | —                 | 6                | —        | 100  | —      | 100              |
| Italian .....                          | 1                | 1                 | 6                | 3        | 130  | 120    | 250              |
| Jewish .....                           | 5                | 1                 | 25               | 2        | 500  | 90     | 509              |
| Armenian .....                         | 1                | —                 | 3                | —        | 150  | —      | 150              |
| TOTALS.....                            | 67               | 36                | 391              | 170      | 8705 | 6768   | 15473            |



# THE AMERICAN PRESS.

*Founded at Malta, 1822, and at Beirut, 1834.*

Mr. E. G. FREYER, *Manager.*

Mr. W. R. GLOCKLER, *Supt.*

Rev. F. E. HOSKINS, D.D., *Editor.*

Editor of the *Neshra* and *Mulkoc* Journals,

Rev. H. H. JESSUP, D.D.

*The Arabic Press of the American Mission printed during the two years:—*

|  | 1898.       | 1903.       |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Total pages .....                            | 28,085,564  | 28,831,134  |
| Of which, Scriptures for the Am. Bible Soc.. | 18,516,000  | 18,742,000  |
| Vols. of Scriptures distributed .....        | 64,539      | 58,881      |
| Total pages printed from the first .....     | 625,671,085 | 725,511,491 |

Catalogues of these publications, in the English and Arabic languages, can be obtained at the Press. They include the Scriptures, as well as religious, educational, theological, scientific, historical, juvenile, and miscellaneous books, prepared by the American Missionaries, and the Professors of the Syrian Protestant College, and Syrian authors.

## VOLUMES OF SCRIPTURES, INCLUDING BIBLES, TESTAMENTS AND PORTIONS, ISSUED BY THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY IN BEIRUT.

|  | 1880.         | 1903.         |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Distributed in Syria, <i>Sold</i> .....    | 4,779         | 10,961        |
| „ „ „ <i>Granted</i> .....                 | 119           | 499           |
| Consigned to American Mission, Egypt. .... | 5,244         | 31,090        |
| „ „ British & Foreign Bible Society...     | 512           | 16,331        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> .....                         | <b>10,674</b> | <b>58,881</b> |

|                       |           |         |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|
| Average yearly issues | 1880-1889 | 23,000. |
| „ „ „                 | 1890-1899 | 39,000. |
| „ „ „                 | 1900-1903 | 43,000. |



## PRESS WORK, PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF BIBLES, TRACTS, &C.

|   | 1876.       | 1903.       |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Bible House and Press Establishment :—                                  | 1           | 4           |
| Steam Presses . . . . .   | 3           | 1           |
| Hand Presses . . . . .  | 2           | 6           |
| Hydraulic Press . . . . .   | 1           | 1           |
| Lithographic Press . . . . .  | 1           | 1           |
| Type Foundry . . . . .  | 1           | 2           |
| Electrotype Apparatus . . . . .   | 1           | 1           |
| Stereotype Apparatus . . . . .  | —           | 1           |
| Embossing Presses . . . . .   | 1           | 2           |
| Hot Rolling Press . . . . .   | —           | 1           |
| Cutting Machines . . . . .  | 2           | 2           |
| Press Employés . . . . .  | 44          | 63          |
| Publications on Press Catalogue . . . . .                               | 207         | 686         |
| Volumes printed during the year . . . . .                               | 38,450      | 89,497      |
| Pages       ,,       ,,       ,,       ,, . . . . .                     | 13,786,980  | 28,831,134  |
| Of which, pages of Scriptures for the Am.                               |             |             |
| Bible Society . . . . .   | 4,277,500   | 18,742,000  |
| Of which, pages of Tracts . . . . .                                     | 232,000     | 2,474,900   |
| Total pages from the beginning . . . . .                                | 159,810,300 | 725,511,491 |
| Scriptures issued during the year by the                                |             |             |
| Bible Societies . . . . .   | 5,641       | 58,881      |
| Other Books and Tracts sold and distributed                             | 25,721      | 117,900     |
| Copies of publications of all kinds issued<br>during the year . . . . . | 50,000      | 176,781     |



LETTERS and all other matters relating to the pecuniary affairs of the Board, or containing remittances of money, should be sent to CHARLES W. HAND, Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York ; also Treasurer of the Mission, Mr. E. G. FREYER, Beirut, Syria.



## SYRIAN PROTESTANT COLLEGE.

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The Syrian Protestant College situated at Beirût is not connected with any Missionary Society or helped by its funds, but it is a direct outgrowth of the Mission in Syria, and is closely affiliated with the Mission and related to its work. It has a magnificent location, and in its Preparatory, Collegiate, Commercial, Pharmaceutical and Medical Departments it has 700 students. Catalogues may be had by applying to the President, Rev. Howard S. Bliss, D.D.

The corps of instruction and administration numbers 55, of these 46 devote all or some of their time to teaching, and 9 are engaged in the conduct of the business affairs of the institution. 29 are from America; 15 are Syrians; 2 are German; 2 are Greek; 3 English; 2 are Italians; 1 is Swiss.

| STUDENTS, 1876                   |              | 1890 | 1903          |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------|---------------|
| Medical Department               | } . . . . 27 | 45   | { 130 }<br>26 |
| Pharmacy Department              |              |      |               |
| Commercial Department . . . . .  | —            | —    | 43            |
| Collegiate Department . . . . .  | 28           | 56   | 136           |
| Preparatory Department . . . . . | 22           | 127  | 365           |
| Total                            | 77           | 228  | 700           |

The College was opened in Beirût in the autumn of 1866. The first class was graduated in 1870. The Medical Department was organized and opened in 1867, the Preparatory Department in 1871, and the School of Commerce in October, 1900.

The College property is situated at Ras Beirût, on a fine site overlooking the sea, the city of Beirût, and the long range of Lebanon Mountains. It includes about forty acres of land, on which thirteen buildings have been erected for the accommodation of the institution. Of these, College Hall and Medical Hall were occupied in the autumn of 1873, the others having been erected at various dates since that time.

Arabic was originally the language of instruction, but English was substituted in the Collegiate Department in 1880, and in the Medical Department in 1887.



## MEDICAL WORK IN THE JOHANNITER HOSPITAL.

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The Medical Professors of the Syrian Protestant College have been for thirty-two years the sole medical attendants of this institution. The hospital is situated on the bluff overlooking the Bay of St. George, in a terraced park of about four acres. The main building is a stately edifice with a central block, two pavilion wings and a rear pavilion connected by a covered glazed corridor. The central block contains the administration department, the operating room, the pathological laboratory, the kitchen and various apartments, and on its best ventilated faces a number of wards, most of them looking out on the sea and Mt. Lebanon. The lower story of the rear pavilion is the chapel erected by American friends of the noble Johanniter Order and of the Deaconesses of Kaiserswerth. The upper story is the surgical ward for men, and is a model of its kind, having windows on all four sides and the most perfect system of lighting and ventilation. Another building furnishes accommodations for a large polyclinique, another isolated for contagious diseases, and still others for laundry, dead house, gate house, etc.

The institution is owned and supported by the Johanniter Order, composed of the flower of the Protestant nobility of Germany, with the Emperor at its head. The nursing and administrative staff is furnished by the Deaconesses of Kaiserswerth. The edifying spectacle of the co-operation of two such institutions as the Johanniter Hospital and the Syrian Protestant College is a striking testimony to œcumenical Christianity resting upon the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.

|                                  | 1876   | 1903   |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                  | <hr/>  | <hr/>  |
| Indoor patients - - -            | 537    | 524    |
| Patients treated in polyclinique | 9,162  | 13,140 |
| Total days of treatment -        | 17,500 | 17,526 |

These patients come from all parts of Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Cyprus, Asia Minor and the Greek Islands. They are Mohammadans, Jews, Druzes and Christians of various sects.



## BIBLE WORK AND CHRISTIAN LITERATURE.

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### PUBLICATION WORK OF THE AMERICAN PRESS, BEIRUT.

The *importance* of this work can be understood only when we realize that the Arabic tongue in its spoken and written forms is the religious language of one-eighth of the human race. The place of the Arabic Bible in the redemption of the Arabic-speaking world corresponds very much to the place of the Scriptures in Greek at the beginning of the Christian era.

The *difficulties* in the way of publication work 75 years ago were the lack of types and printing machines, and then later the lack of writers and material worthy of being put into print. These have all been overcome. But in their stead are a crop of new obstacles connected with the Press laws which differ in many important respects from those in Christian lands. Not all the local officials are inspired by, or in complete sympathy with, the motives and policy of those in highest authority at Constantinople. We make grateful acknowledgment that they are not all alike and that the work of the Press enjoys such a measure of confidence where it is best known.

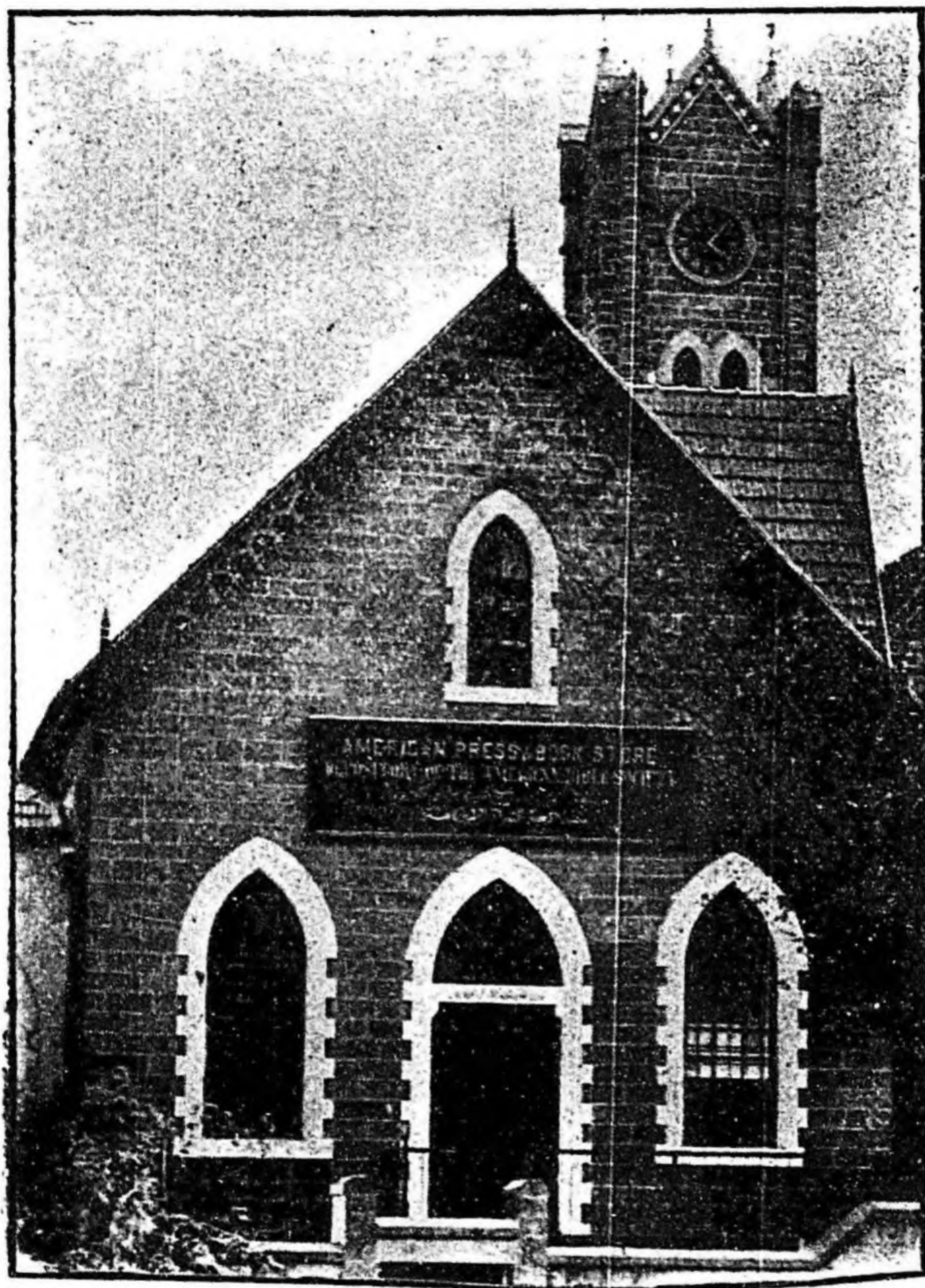
The *story* of the Press from its beginning is a fascinating one. It began in Beirut, when Dr. Eli Smith and his gifted helpers undertook the task of reducing the beautifully written Arabic to a new set of forms that could be handled in types. It follows many persons on many journeys over the sea and into many lands and long years of toil before the big press reeled off the last pages of the complete Bible. After all the changes and improvements of another fifty years the font of type for printing vowelled Arabic contains nearly 1000 separate pieces.

The *Press building* has been rebuilt and enlarged many times until the plant stands unapproachable in its outfit and its fifty trained workmen ready to do the bidding of the Christian church. The two Boards (American till 1870, and Presbyterian since) have spent not less than £500 yearly for the period of 75 years, and the mission and its helpers have furnish the authors and translators. The American Bible Society has never faltered in its generous support of every plan to perfect the printing of the Arabic Bible. The Religious Tract Society of London has been generous and loyal in the publication of Christian literature. The American Tract Society has aided in the same good work, while the Syrian Protestant College and many private parties have given good books to the world at nominal prices.

The *whole plant* with its outfit of engines, printing machines, etc., is worth not less than \$90,000, and the stock, bound and unbound, in the store-rooms another \$90,000. Any attempt to duplicate such an establishment would be next to impossible, and a misuse of funds meant for the evangelization of the world.

*Results.* These can be grouped in multiples of seven. The missionaries have given over 70 years of labor. The Bible in whole or parts is found in 70 different forms. The publications on the Press catalogue number 700, and apart from the Bibles contain 77,000 pages plus 7,000 and another 7,000 (90,000) pages of Christian literature. Since its foundation in all over 700,000,000 pages have been printed, more than two-thirds of which are the Word of God. The Press is ready to furnish 50,000 Bibles yearly, and with a comparatively slight additional expense could print 100,000 yearly. What will the Church do with these Bibles?





THE AMERICAN PRESS, BEIRUT, SYRIA.



## THE MISSION PRESS AT BEIRUT.

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Christ's parable of the mustard seed, which, though the least of all seeds, becometh a tree so that the birds of the air lodge in the branches thereof, finds an illustration in the history of the Mission Press at Beirut.

This institution was established at Malta in 1822, transferred to Smyrna, and in 1834 removed to Beirut.

According to old mission records, the work in the early years was indeed small: but it was taking root, and, where the work at Malta was easily done on a small hand press brought from Boston, to-day our four large steam presses, capable of turning out millions of sheets each year, are not sufficient to meet the ever-increasing demand made upon us for all kinds of literature, and for the Bible in particular.

Many not conversant with the needs of foreign mission work may ask "Why still maintain a Press when there are now so many presses in the city?" From the very earliest period of mission work, whether in Syria or elsewhere, it was found that, if a mission desired literature suited to the needs of its particular work, that literature must be translated and printed under its own supervision. Furthermore, it is most essential that the greatest amount of work should be accomplished at the smallest possible cost, because of the limited means some Boards have for carrying on work abroad.

The Mission Press at Beirut stands, not as a money making agency, but as an integral part of the Syria Mission. Its aim is to evangelize the Arabic speaking race, and to supply religious literature to the members of our own and other missions, at a price as nearly at cost as possible. Yet withal the Board of Foreign Missions expects the establishment to be self supporting.

Not only is the Press work affiliated with the efforts of the Presbyterian Board for Foreign Missions, but since the translation of the Bible in 1865 the Press has been the publishing



centre for nearly all the Arabic Scriptures used throughout the world. During 1903, alone, no less than 18,742,000 pages were printed of Scripture, and year by year finds the record growing larger. Truly it is a great work. Where have these millions of pages gone, who have read them, what thoughts have they aroused, and what souls have they been the means of turning unto God? To be sure, we do not know all the results, for, after all, our work is to prepare the printed word and to place it in the hands of the people. But that God's Word *does* work mightily in the hearts of men, and that it *does not* return unto Him void, we DO know.

During the past year, there were sent out 58,881 vols. of Scripture, which was 23,536 vols. in excess of the previous year. During the last three months of the year, alone, Egypt took no less than 35,688 vols., and thus we might indefinitely illustrate by statistics the demand for the Scriptures. Shipments are made to all parts of Turkey, to Persia, to Africa and the Philippines, as well as the large Syrian colonies in America, Australia and New Zeland.

The American Tract Society, The Religious Tract Society of London, The Children's Special Service Mission, as well as the missions of Egypt and Asia Minor look to the Press to supply the Arabic literature which they need, and for these no less than 10,000,000 pages were printed during 1903. In addition to the printing, the Press also undertakes the binding of all these publications, and last year bound 104,288 vols.

The work is steadily growing, each year finds the record of the previous year broken, but as in all other undertakings there must of necessity be a limit, with limited facilities. To-day there are on order, no less than 100,000 books, books that are needed, books for which, in many cases, people are actually clamoring. Within the past four years three new modern machines have been added to our plant, but still orders cannot be filled as rapidly as the demands make it desirable.

Under a separate heading will be found full details regarding printing, binding, etc., for 1903, and Press Catalogues, giving full information in regard to all of our publications, will be gladly sent by mail upon request being made to the Manager of the Press.



# STATISTICS OF THE AMERICAN PRESS

— — —  
 SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE  
 YEAR 1903.

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Number of pages of Scripture printed.. . . .      | 18,742,000 |
| „ „ of <i>El Neshra</i> printed.. . . .           | 292,500    |
| „ „ of <i>Kowkab</i> printed.. . . .              | 240,000    |
| „ „ of Jobbing Work printed.. . . .               | 576,334    |
| „ „ Tracts, Pamphlets and Circulars printed . . . | 2,474,900  |
| „ „ Miscellaneous Books printed.. . . .           | 6,505,400  |
| „ „ of all descriptions printed. . . . .          | 28,831,134 |
| „ of volumes Scripture printed.. . . .            | 41,497     |
| „ of Miscellaneous volumes printed.. . . .        | 48,000     |
| „ of volumes printed of all descriptions.. . . .  | 89,497     |
| „ of <i>El Neshra</i> printed.. . . .             | 33,800     |
| „ of <i>Kowkab</i> printed.. . . .                | 56,400     |
| „ of volumes Scripture bound .. . . .             | 61,374     |
| „ of miscellaneous volumes bound . . . . .        | 42,914     |
| „ of volumes bound of all descriptions.. . . .    | 104,288    |
| „ of Tracts, Pamphlets, etc., sewn.. . . .        | 20,750     |
| „ of Maps, etc., mounted.. . . .                  | 235        |
| Value of Jobbing Work, in piasters. . . . .       | 39,516     |
| No. of pieces Type cast.. . . .                   | 322,941    |
| „ Employees .. . . .                              | 64         |
| Average Monthly Pay Roll, in piasters.. . . .     | 24,400     |

*Scriptures printed, Dec. 30, 1902--Dec. 30, 1903.*

|                          |        |                              |       |
|--------------------------|--------|------------------------------|-------|
| Bible 1st ft.. . . .     | 2,000  | Vow. Job 16mo.. . . .        | 2,000 |
| Bible 3rd ft.. . . .     | 5,497  | Vow. Psalms 16mo. . . . .    | 5,000 |
| Test. 4th ft.. . . .     | 4,000  | Psalms 1st ft. Plain.. . . . | 2,000 |
| Vow. Matth. 24mo.. . . . | 10,000 | Psalms 2nd ft. Plain.. . . . | 6,000 |
| Vow. Mark 24mo.. . . .   | 5,000  |                              |       |



## GERARD INSTITUTE.

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### A MISSIONARY TRAINING SCHOOL FOR SYRIAN LADS AND YOUTHS.

Established in 1881, for the purpose of training native helpers in the Arabic language, it also gives ample attention to instruction in English, besides a fair amount of French. Following in the wake of educational progress and reform, the world over, it added, eight years ago, manual training, as a necessary part of the equipment of all its pupils. Carpentry, tailoring, shoemaking, masonry and agriculture have already been started, and other branches await the financial ability to establish them. The farm, beginning within a mile of the city, and lying in the Lebanon district, contains over 200 acres. An orphanage annex, caring for twenty-five little Protestant orphan boys, from all over the country, is housed in the new building on the farm, represented in the accompanying picture. The farm contains a beautiful and extensive site for the Institute, whenever the funds shall be provided for moving it from its present cramped and inadequate quarters in the city. A substantial beginning toward this fund has already been made.

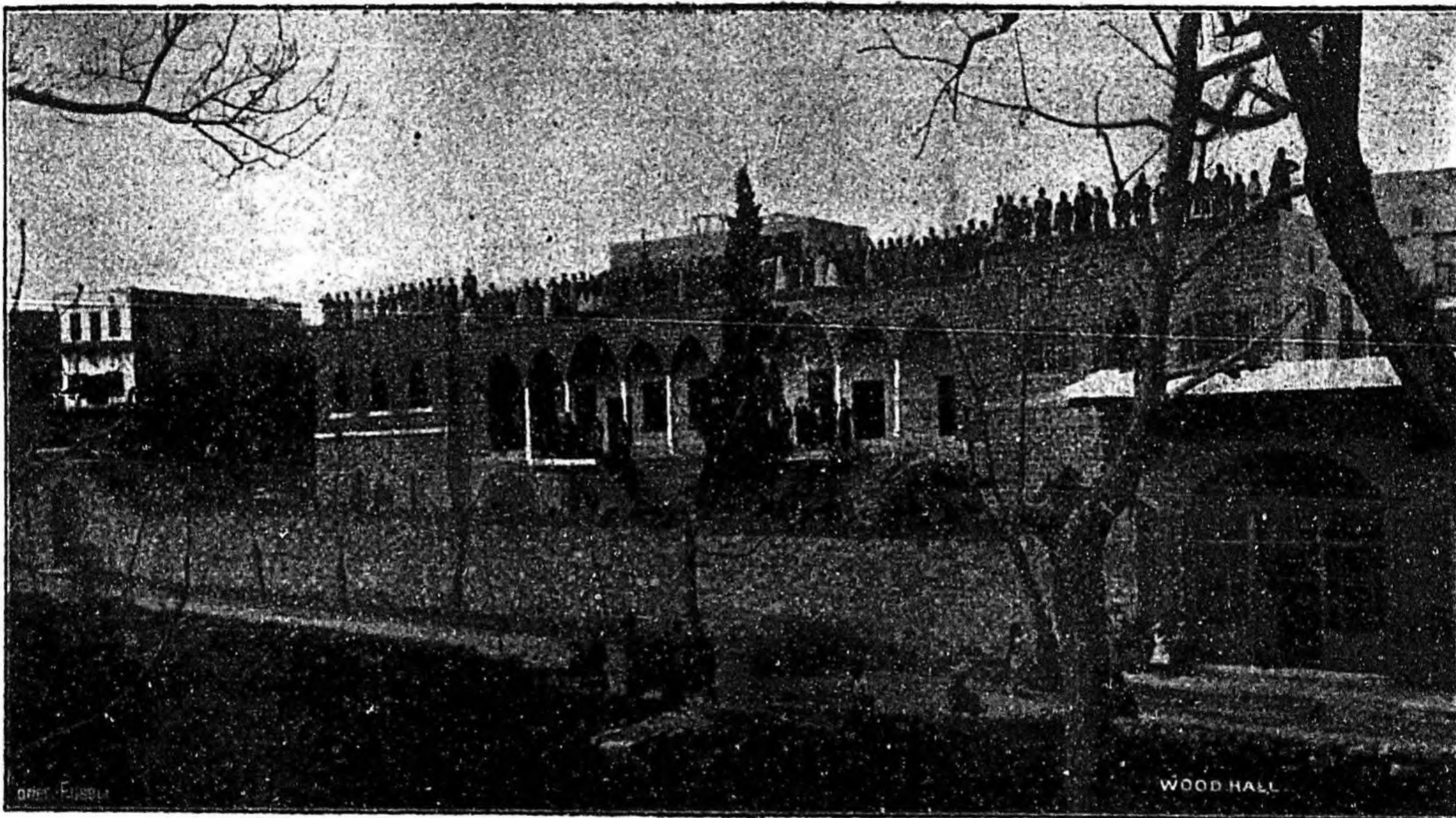
During the twenty-two years of its existence, the Institute has received some 800 pupils, of whom fully one-quarter have afterward taught in mission schools. In Syria (including Palestine) are nine Evangelical Missionary Boarding Schools for Boys, led by the College at Beirut. To give a fair idea of the specific object of the Institute and its practical results, it may be said that recent statistics showed that, in general terms, of the preachers and teachers now in the employ of our Mission, as many were prepared for their life-work or their theological course at Gerard Institute as at the other eight schools combined.

The pupils are now scattered broadly over the world, in various pursuits, from Ontario, Canada, to California and Buenos Ayres and around by Egypt and the Soudan and the Transvaal to the Philippines. Drawn from every one of the many sects in Syria, it is a truly representative body. Jews, Muslims, Metawileh, Babites, Druzes, Nusariyeh, as well as Greeks, Catholics, Maronites, Latins, Syrians, Armenians and Protestants—all have shared in the uniform course of Bible study, and attended regularly the religious exercises of church and school.

The number enrolled this year is over 250, including the primaries, while the boarders number about 150.

The necessity of the industrial feature, recognized in the most highly privileged and civilized lands and communities, has double force where civilization and privileges are less pronounced, as in this land, and the Gerard Institute is the only Evangelical Missionary School in Syria or Palestine (barring a German Orphanage at Jerusalem) that aims to give industrial training to its boy pupils. The people of the land have long called for such training for their boys, and gave its introduction a most hearty welcome. The pupils have shown an aptitude for handicraft, and the good fruits of this new departure are already evident. At the same time, this feature, here, as everywhere, calls naturally for a heavy outlay, especially in plant, which must be steadily and constantly improved.

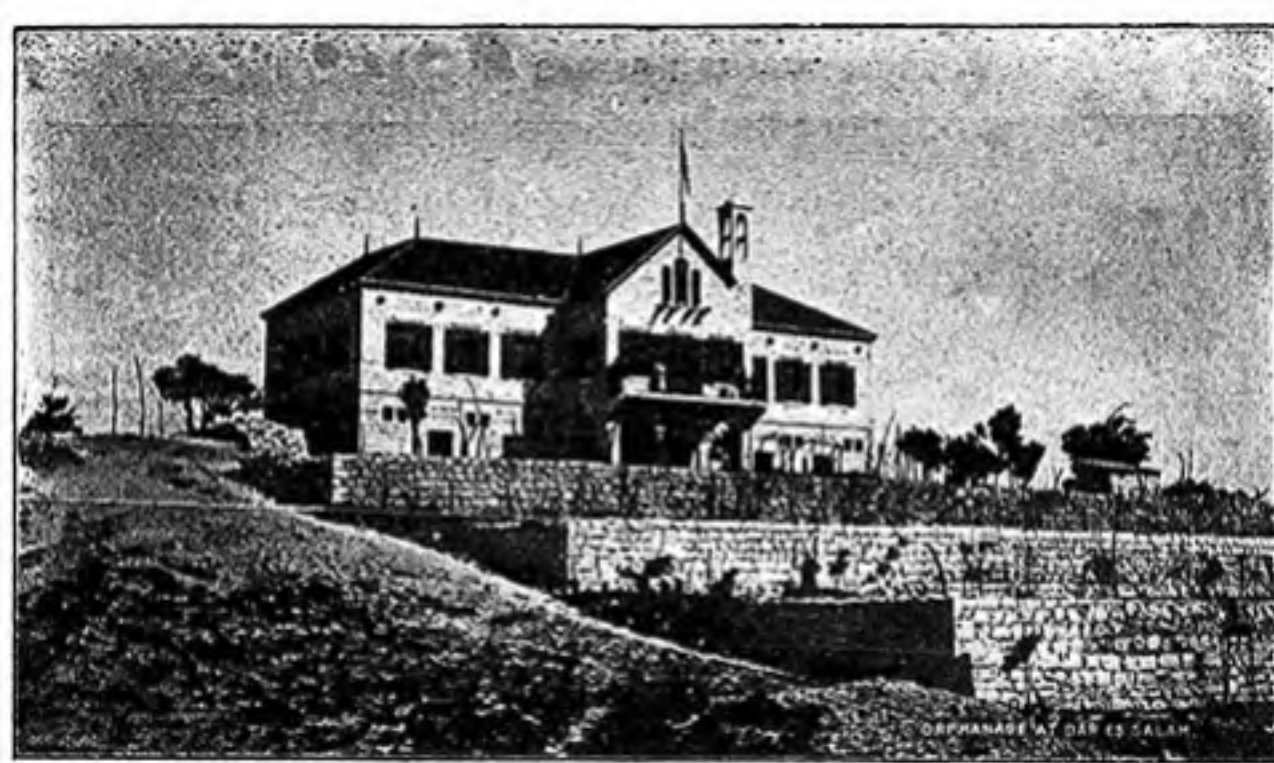




### GERARD INSTITUTE.

Original building in the ancient city of Sidon—Pupils lining the roof—Tailor shop at the extreme right of the picture.





GERARD INSTITUTE.—Orphanage at Dar-es-Salam—Erected 1901.



## SUK-UL-GHARB BOYS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

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This school was opened at Sûk-ul-Gharb, a salubrious mountain village and summer resort, about twelve miles from Beirût, two years after the 'Abeih Academy was closed. As the successor of that honored school it has endeavored to follow the best traditions of evangelical teaching, in order to provide teachers and preachers for the schools and villages of Syria. Its central position and ease of access have been favorable to its growth. The school has increased steadily in numbers and reputation, applications for admission far exceeding the utmost capacity of the buildings. There are now in the school 167 pupils, of whom 32 are day scholars from the vicinity. They come from 53 towns and villages of Syria of the various Christian and non-Christian sects of the country. This bringing of opposing sects together under one management is one of the greatest benefits of such school work, since it serves to destroy the animosities of race and religion which have always afflicted the East.

Instruction is given in English, French, and Arabic languages, carrying students through a preparatory course of study for entrance to the Freshman class at Syrian Protestant College. Daily Bible and other religious instruction is given in all classes. Self-support has been from the first one of the aims of the management and a good measure of success has been attained.

## SHWEIR BOYS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

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This school, originally founded at Sûk-el-Gharb by the Lebanon Schools Society, was removed to Shweir in 1874. At that time the Free Church of Scotland Foreign Missions Committee assumed joint control with that Society and appointed Mr. William Carslaw, M.D. (afterward ordained), who for nearly 30 years has cared for the work and sent forth a large number of young Lebanese who, entering the College in Beirût, government service in Egypt, as well as the profession of medicine, have reflected great honor upon the work



done by Dr. Carslaw at Shweir. In 1899 the whole work in the Shweir district was transferred to the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and became an integral part of the Syria Mission, the Free Church of Scotland generously continuing the support of Rev. Wm. Carslaw so long as "he is able and willing to do missionary work there."

There are 40 boarders and 20 day pupils in the school at this time.

## BOARDING SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS.

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The Mission also conducts three Boarding Schools for Girls, to which eight American ladies give all their time and strength.

### BEIRUT SEMINARY,

founded 1846, has sent forth hundreds of trained teachers and educated women into Syria and Egypt.

### SIDON SEMINARY,

founded 1862, has educated scores of girls for the villages of northern Galilee, the region of Mt. Hermon, and the Lebanon.

### TRIPOLI SEMINARY,

founded 1873, has drawn its hundreds of pupils from the city of Tripoli, northern Lebanon, and all the region round about Hums and Hama. These three schools have an average yearly attendance of 150 boarders and 100 day pupils.





MAIN DORMITORY OF THE BOYS' BOARDING SCHOOL AT SHWEIR.



## ANOTHER RECORD BROKEN !

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1904.

March 7th. Received orders for 18,100 copies of Scriptures.

March 8th.       “       “       10,800       “       “

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Total orders in two days : 28,900 copies of Scriptures.

128,800 books are now being put through the presses,  
91,000 of which are Scriptures.



# OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE SYRIA MISSION OF THE AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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85 YEARS. 1819 TO 1904.

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FIRST PERIOD, 1819 TO 1840.

Turkish Sultan, Mahmoud II., 1808–1839.

A period of exploration and preparation, intolerance, persecution, banishment, wars and pestilence.

1822—The American Press founded at Malta.

1834—The Press removed to Beirût.

The principal missionaries were Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons, arrived in 1820; Dr. Jonas King, 1822; Dr. William Goodell, translator of the Scriptures into Armeno-Turkish, 1823; Rev. Isaac Bird, another of "Bible Work in Bible Lands," 1823; Dr. Eli Smith, who began the translation of the Bible into the Arabic, 1827; and Dr. Wm. M. Thomson, author of "The Land and the Book."

October 20, 1827—Naval battle of Navarino, destruction of the Turkish fleet by the allied English, French and Russian fleets.

1826—The first Protestant martyr, Assad es Shidiak, starved to death in the Maronite Monastery of Kannobin, by order of the Maronite Patriarch.

1828—War with England expected, missionaries fled to Malta.

1830—Armenia explored by Dr. Eli Smith and Dr. H. G. O. Dwight.

1830—The first girls' schools ever opened in the Turkish Empire commenced by Mrs. Bird and Mrs. Goodell in Beirût and Mount Lebanon.



1830—When the missionaries returned from Malta to Beirût one small row-boat came out to meet them, containing the entire Protestant community of the Turkish Empire, viz.: five persons. (Now, in 1904, about 100,000).

1834—Mrs. Eli Smith opened school for girls in Beirût.

1835—Boys' Seminary in Beirût with six pupils.

• The Greek war, the plagues, the invasion of Ibrahim Pasha, son of Mohammed Ali, Pasha of Egypt (1825-30), and the disturbed state of the country, rendered continuous missionary labor impossible.

Protestant Christianity a *religio illicita*.

#### SECOND PERIOD, 1840 to 1860.

September, 1840—From the expulsion of Ibrahim Pasha by the allied English, Austrian and Turkish fleets to the civil war and massacres of 1860.

Turkish Sultan, Abdul Medjid, 1839-1861.

The Turks restored to Syria.

Protestantism recognized by the Turkish Sultan as one of the religions of the empire.

1840—Boys' Boarding School in Beirût under Mr. Hebard.

November, 1841—Civil war in Lebanon between the Druzes and Maronites.

March, 1844—The Sultan Abdul Medjid issued a firman that Christians of all sects are not to be insulted nor to be persecuted for their religion.

1845—Civil war again in Lebanon. Missionaries ordered down to Beirût.

1846—Boys' Boarding School opened in 'Abeih by Dr. Van Dyck. Girls' Boarding School in Beirût by Dr. and Mrs. De Forest.

1847—The Protestant "Charter of Rights" was issued by the Grand Vizier in Constantinople. (See Goodell's "Forty Years in the Turkish Empire.")



1848—The first Syrian Evangelical Church organized in Beirût with 18 members.

1848—New translation of the Bible into the Arabic language began by Rev. Eli Smith, D.D., assisted by Mr. Butrus Bustany.

1850—The previous Protestant "Charter of Rights" being only Vizieral, the Sultan Abdul Medjid issued an Imperial firman, called the "Imperial Protestant Charter of Rights," guaranteeing to the Protestants all the rights and privileges of the other Christian sects in the empire.

1853—First steam printing-press set up in Beirût.

1853-55—Crimean war. British influence predominant

1854—Commenced printing new translation of Genesis.

February, 1857—The famous Hatti Hamaiyoun or Imperial Edict, or guarantee of religious liberty, announces that no Mohammedan becoming a Christian shall be put to death.

1857—Four evangelical churches in Syria with 75 members.

Jan. 11, 1857—Death of Dr. Eli Smith.

February, 1857—Translation of the Bible continued by Rev. Cornelius V. A. Van Dyck, M.D., D.D., LL.D., assisted by the Mufti, Sheikh Yusef Asir, graduate of the Azhar University in Cairo.

1858—American Boarding School for Girls in Sûk-el-Gharb, Mount Lebanon.

### THIRD PERIOD, 1860 to 1880.

Light out of darkness. From the civil war and massacres of 1860 to the dedication of the Gerald F. Dale, Jr., Memorial Sunday School Hall in Beirût.

1860-61—Sultan Abdul Medjid.

1861-76—Sultan Abdul Azîz.

1876-99—Sultan Abdul Hamîd.

March 29, 1860—Translation and printing of Arabic Reference New Testament completed by Dr. Van Dyck. A pocket edition in April.



April to July 9, 1860—Civil war between the Druzes and Maronites in Lebanon, followed by bloody massacres in Lebanon, Hasbeiya and Damascus.

August and September, 1860—Twenty thousand refugees receiving aid from the Anglo-American and German Relief Committee in Beirût. The missionaries spent four months feeding the hungry and clothing the needy. 100,000 garments distributed, and £30,000 given in relief.

August, 1860, to November, 1861—Occupation of Syria for nine month by 6,000 French troops, on behalf of the European Powers, and a fleet of twenty-five British line of battle ships, with the consent of the Sultan.

Increase of European and Christian interest in Syria. New educational and benevolent institutions founded.

October, 1860—British Syrian Schools and Bible Mission founded by Mrs. Bowen Thompson. These Schools have now (1903) 47 schools and 3,834 children in Syria, chiefly girls.

October, 1860—Prussian Deaconesses of Kaiserswerth found an orphanage for girls in Beirût, with 130 orphans. Up to this date, 1899, they have trained about 1,000 girls.

June 10, 1861—A new government instituted in Lebanon, under a Latin Christian Pasha, appointed with the approval of the six European Powers.

July 18, 1861—Daoud Pasha inaugurated as Governor-General of Lebanon. His successors have been :

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Franco Pasha.....   | 1867-1871 |
| Rustum Pasha.....   | 1871-1881 |
| Wassa Pasha.....    | 1881-1890 |
| Na'oum Pasha.....   | 1890-1899 |
| Mazaffar Pasha..... | 1899      |

1862—American Female Seminary re-opened in Beirût.

Oct., 1862—Sûk Girls' Boarding School transferred to Sidon.

January 27, 1862—The Syria Mission voted to establish a College in Beirût, with Rev. Daniel Bliss as President.



1863—The Syrian Protestant College was incorporated by the Legislature of the State of New York.

March 10, 1865—Celebration of the completion of the Arabic translation of the Old Testament, thus completing the new Arabic Bible.

June, 1865—Dr. Van Dyck left for New York and superintended the electrotyping of the Arabic Bible, duplicate plates being deposited with the Bible Societies in New York and London, and in the vaults of the American Press in Beirût.

Oct., 1865—The College formally opened in Beirût with 16 students. Number of students in 1880, 124. In this period, Mrs. E. H. Waston, under the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, opened a Girls' Boarding School in Mt. Lebanon.

The Lebanon Schools Committee, of Scotland, opened Boys' and Girls' Boarding Schools in Sûq-el-Gharb and afterwards in Shweir, Mt. Lebanon. The Kirk of Scotland Jewish Committee instituted schools and a Chaplaincy in Beirût. Miss Taylor opened the St. George's School for Moslem and Druze Girls in Beirût.

May, 1868—American Theological Seminary opened in Abeih, with Drs. Calhoun, W. W. Eddy, and H. H. Jessup as instructors.

1869—Imperial press and school laws promulgated, establishing a severe censorship over all books and newspapers.

1870—The Syria Mission was transferred from the A. B. C. F. M. of Boston to the American Presbyterian Board of Missions.

December 7, 1871—Cornerstone of the Syrian Protestant College laid by the Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, of New York.

1873—American Female Seminary opened in Tripoli, Syria.

November, 1873—Theological Seminary transferred to Beirût.

May, 1875—Dog River water introduced into Beirût.



August, 31, 1876--Accession of Sultan Abdul Hamîd.

April, 1877--Russia declares war against Turkey.

1877-78--Great Circassian deportation from Bulgaria to Syria.

1877--Mohammedan Society of Benevolent Intentions opened schools for girls in Beirût, Damascus, Tripoli and Aleppo.

Greeks, Papal Greeks, Maronites and Jews opened schools for boys and girls.

Multiplication of newspapers and books.

Society of friends founded a mission, hospital and schools at Brummana, Mt. Lebanon, under Theophilus Waldmeier.

#### FOURTH PERIOD, 1880 to 1904.

December 19, 1880--From the dedication of the Gerald F. Dale Memorial Sunday School Hall in Beirût to the present time.

Growth of all departments of Protestant Missionary work, medical, educational, publication, and evangelistic. Beirût becomes the literary centre of Syria.

1886, Oct. 6--Death of Rev. G. F. Dale, Jr., in Zahleh.

1887--The Mejlis el-Maarif, or Board of Public Instruction of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, the Caliph of Mohammed, placed the seal of authorization upon 33 different editions of the Arabic Scriptures and parts of Scriptures.

The Local Board in Damascus also approved 330 different Arabic publications of the American Press in Beirût.

April 8, 1894--Death of Rev. Wm. M. Thomson, D.D., author of "The Land and the Book," in Denver, Colorado, aged 89.

Nov. 13, 1895--Death of Rev. C. V. A. Van Dyck, M.D., D.D., LL.D., in Beirût, aged 77 years, after 53 years of service.

July, 1895--Railway opened from Beirût to Damascus and Hauran.



1896-97—Prince Gargarin, Director of the Russian Schools in Syria and Palestine, orders the Arabic Scriptures to be used in all their schools.

During this period, the Syrians of the various Christian sects have begun to emigrate in vast numbers to Egypt, Australia, and North and South America. Not less than 75,000 have gone, and others are preparing to go. The young, industrious, ambitious, and educated classes are going to seek to better their condition. Insecurity of life and property in the interior, and want of employment are driving them away.

Jan. 26, 1900—Death of Rev. W. W. Eddy, D.D., aged 74, after 48 years of service.

Aug. 6, 1900—Lebanon Asylum for the Insane opened at the "Asfuriyeh," 45 minutes out of Beirut.

Feb. 8, 1902—Death of Miss Eliza D. Everett, after having given 27 years' service in Syria.

Sept. 21, 1902—Opening of Junieh Hospital and Dispensary.

Jan. 15, 1903—First locomotive reached Beirut harbor on extension of French railroad to Port.

1904—The whole number of Children in Protestant Schools in Syria and Palestine is about 20,000, of whom one-half are girls.

The number of Protestants enrolled as a civil sect is over 7,000.

Whole number of pages printed at the American Press from the beginning is about 748,906,901.

There are 20 Arabic Journals in Beirut and immediate vicinity: 1 Turkish official, 3 Protestant, 4 Mohammedan, 5 Greek, 4 Maronite, 2 Jesuit, 1 Druze.

Five Hospitals have been founded since 1860: St. John's, Protestant (Knights of St. John, Berlin); St. Joseph's, Papal; St. George's, Orthodox Greek; the Beirut Municipality Hospital; Junieh Hospital and Dispensary.

The graduates of the Syrian Protestant College number in the Preparatory Department 577, Collegiate Department 237, School of Commerce 5, in Pharmacy 118, in Medicine



221. There are at present 700 students. It has 13 stone buildings, about 40 acres of land, a large library, and astronomical observatory with a refractor of 12 inches aperture and 15 feet focal length, extensive scientific collections, apparatus and laboratories.

In the American Cemetery, adjoining the American Press in Beirût, are the graves of Pliny Fisk, died 1826, Dr. Eli Smith, Dr. Van Dyck, Dr. W. W. Eddy, Dr. Wm. Bird, Dr. C. W. Calhoun, Rev. Gerald F. Dale, and others.

In the Female Seminary, in the rear of the Church, can be seen the upper room in which the Bible was translated into the Arabic, during a period of 16 years. A tablet commemorating the fact was placed in the wall by President D. C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University.

In the Mission Library, placed temporarily in the library of the College, can be seen a fine collection of old Arabic books and MSS. In the care of the Editor of the Press can be seen the *original* MSS. of the translation of the Bible into Arabic, the first copies ever printed, together with the standard copies of the various editions.